

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-11 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 INT-08 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15

EUR-25 NIC-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /170 W

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R 301330Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1707

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, PE

SUBJ: MINERS END WALKOUT

REF: LIMA 7201

1. WORKERS AT CENTROMIN-PERU ENDED 48-HOUR WALKOUT AGU 28 AND RETURNED TO THE MINES AND THEIR LEADERS TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. STRIKE WAS CARRIED OUT WITHOUT INCIDENT. WORK STOPPAKE WAS SUCCESSFUL INsofar AS IT DEMONSTRATED UNION ABILITY TO SHUT DOWN MINES. WHETHER IT SERVED TO IMPROVE MINERS' COLLECTIVE BARGAINING POSITION IS YET UNCLEAR. UNION LEADERS NOW PUBLICLY EXPRESS FAITH THAT LABOR MINISTRY MEDIATION WILL RESULT IN SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO BOTH SIDES. NO NEW STRIKE DATE HAS SO FAR BEEN SET.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH NEIHER MINERS NOR GOP ARE SPOILING FOR TEST OF STRENGTH, UNION DEMANDS ARE CONSIDERABLE AND GOP INDICATES IT IS NOT PREPARED TO MEET THEM. COMPROMISE WILL BE DIFFICULT AND NEGOTIATIONS MAY DRAG ON UNTIL UNIONS ONCE AGAIN USE STRIKE WEAPON.

3. APRISTA-LED PERUVIAN LABOR CONFEDERATION (CTP) SEC GEN CRUZADO
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TOLD LABATT THAT UNIONS ENCOURAGED BY EFFECTIVNESS OF 48-HOUR STIKE.

THEN OF 14 CENTROMIN UNIONS, ACCORDING CRUZADO, HAD ALMOST 100
PERCENT WORKER PARTICIPATION IN STRIKE AND MAJORITY OF OTHER FOUR
UNIONS ALSO WENT ALONG. FURTHERMORE, TEACHERS IN AREA CARRIED OUT
SYMPATHEY STRIKE
AND MORE GENERAL ANTI-GOVERNMENT LABOR PROTEST
MIGHT EASILY HAVE BEEN KINDLED.

4. COP HAS BEEN USING GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED MEDIA IN HOPES OF TURNING
PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST MINERS.
GOVERNMENT ALSO SEEMS TO BE BANKING ON BLUFFING
OR SCARING UNION LEADERS INTO REDUCING DEMANDS. ACCORDING
TO CTP LEADERS, LABOR MINISTER SALA-OROZCO TOLD UNION CHIEFS THAT IF
THEY CONTINUED INTRASIGENCE HE WOULD SEND THEM
TO PERU'S JUNGLE PRISON (SEPA) TO THINK THINGS OUT.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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